

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 062270

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DRAFTED BY M/MO:PEPESCE

APPROVED BY M/MO:RGMAYS, JR.

S/NM - MR. RAFFERTY

EA/EX - MR. CHAMPAGNE

EA/RA - MR. GALLAGHER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AODE, SNAR, TW

SUBJECT:MODE - DEA PROPOSAL TO ADD SECOND AGENT

REFS: TAIPEI 3201, 6-9-75; STATE 130134, 6-4-65

1. DEA HAS REVIVED PROPOSAL TO ADD A SECOND AGENT AT
TAIPEI. REFERENCES DISCUSSED SIMILAR PROPOSAL IN FY-75.

2. JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSAL IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE.

ENFORCEMENT REQUIREMENT: SPECIAL AGENT.

THE RATIONALE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A TWO-MAN DEA OFFICE
AT TAIPEI, TAIWAN WAS PROVIDED ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1974.
APPROVAL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE TO ESTABLISH A ONE-MAN POST AT TAIPEI. THE
OFFICE BECAME OPERATIONAL ON JUNE 27, 1975.

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PAGE 02 STATE 062270

THE RATIONALE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOR THE STAFFING OF
TAIPEI HOLDS TRUE TODAY AND IN FACT IS EVER MORE APPARENT.
IN ADDITION, WE HAVE SEEN MANY CHANGES OCCUR IN SOUTHEAST
ASIA ON POLITICAL FRONTS, AS WELL AS IN THE PATTERNS OF

INCREASED AVAILABILITY, TRAFFICKING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF
ASIAN HEROIN AFFECTING THE UNITED STATES MARKET.

THE TAIPEI DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED A CLOSE
WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH POLICE COUNTERPARTS WHO ARE
EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE AND HIGHLY EFFECTIVE. AS A RESULT,
WE HAVE A TREMENDOUS CAPABILITY AND POTENTIAL TO ACHIEVE
AMBITIOUS GOALS IN TAIWAN. A SECOND SPECIAL AGENT IN
TAIPEI WILL PERMIT THE MAXIMUM DEVELOPMENT OF THIS
CAPABILITY AND POTENTIAL.

TAIWAN HAS BEEN A HAVEN FOR ETHNIC CHINESE NARCOTICS
FUGITIVES BEING SOUGHT BY OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIAN AUTHOR-
ITIES; IT CONTINUES TO BE USED BY HIGH-LEVEL TRAFFICKERS
AS A BASE OF OPERATIONS, AND IT ALSO HOLDS SPECIAL
INTEREST AS A TRANSIT COUNTRY FOR ASIAN HEROIN. AT THIS
VERY MOMENT, A DEA SPECIAL AGENT IS ON A TEMPORARY DUTY
ASSIGNMENT IN TAIWAN TO ASSIST IN AN INVESTIGATION IN-
VOLVING SIX KILOGRAMS OF HIGH PURITY NUMBER 4 HEROIN.
ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1975, 27 POUNDS OF HIGHLY REFINED
MARIJUANA WAS SEIZED AT TAIPEI ENROUTE TO HONOLULU.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, RATIONALE HAS BEEN PROVIDED
BY DEA ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS IN THE PAST TO SUPPORT THE
DESIRABILITY AND NEED TO HAVE AT LEAST TWO DEA SPECIAL
AGENTS ASSIGNED TO EACH DISTRICT OFFICE. END QUOTE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. WE NEED COM COMMENTS TO FACILITATE
DECISION REGARDING REVIVED PROPOSAL. APPROVAL WOULD
BRING AUTHORIZED DEA STAFFING LEVEL IN TAIWAN TO 3 U.S.,
ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS. KISSINGER

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